

82nd Airborne Back in Iraq

By Pfc. Mike Pryor
82nd Airborne Div. Public Affairs

BAGHDAD -- When Operation Iraqi Freedom began in March, 2003, the 82nd Airborne Division was there. Now, almost two years later, with a new mission, a new enemy, and new challenges to face, the 82nd is back in Iraq and ready for action.

More than 1,500 paratroopers from two battalions of the 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment, the 82nd's Division-Ready Brigade, and other slice elements began deploying to Iraq from Fort Bragg, NC on Dec. 3, only days after receiving a deployment order. The first paratroopers arrived at Baghdad International Airport on Dec. 4.

The 82nd's mission in Iraq is to augment U.S. Army forces providing security for the country's upcoming democratic elections. Third Battalion is attached to the 1st Cavalry Division's 3rd Brigade Combat Team. Second Battalion is attached to the 10th Mountain Division's 2nd Brigade Combat Team.

Historically, the 82nd's mission has been to deploy rapidly, seize enemy territory by parachute assault, fight and win. While its current mission in Iraq is different, the division's paratroopers are up for any challenge, said Lt. Col. Thomas Hiebert, commander of 3rd Battalion, 325th AIR.

"(The Army) expects its leaders to be able to execute all sorts of missions from offensive combat operations, to stability and support, to security operations. And I don't know anybody better qualified to do that than our paratroopers," Hiebert said.

"They understand their significance in the greater scheme of things. They know darn well why they're here. And they are completely, totally, without a doubt, ready for anything," he said.

The paratroopers of 3rd Battalion, the majority of who are combat veterans, said their commander's confidence wasn't misplaced.

"All our leaders are seasoned guys, and I know they're going to take care of their men. Whatever the mission is, I know we're going to get it done," said



Photos by Pfc. Mike Pryor, 82nd Airborne Division Public Affairs

(Above) The first convoy of vehicles from 3rd Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, prepares to move out from Camp Stryker to their new home in Baghdad's International Zone.

(Right) Paratroopers from 2nd Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division practice movement drills soon after arriving at Camp Stryker near Baghdad's International Airport.

I'm supposed to be doing now. I'm glad to help out my country," said Pfc. Max Anduze, of Headquarters Company.

Not every paratrooper had such philosophical reasons for their excitement.

"I'm happy to be here - I need the money," said Spc. Phillip Freeman from Company B, 307th Engineer Battalion. "I hope we stay for a year so I can refill my bank account."

Whatever their reasons for coming, some 1st Cavalry Division Soldiers are just glad the 82nd's paratroopers are here now.

"We're all definitely glad to have the eighty-deuce here," said Capt. Patrick Blankenship, logistics officer with the First Team's 3rd Brigade Combat Team. "They're the All-Americans."



Staff Sgt. Jereme Ayers, a squad leader with 3rd Battalion's Company A. He served with the 325th during its previous year-long deployment to Iraq from February 2003 to February 2004.

This will be the first combat experience for some of the battalion's younger paratroopers. Most expressed enthusiasm at the chance to serve.

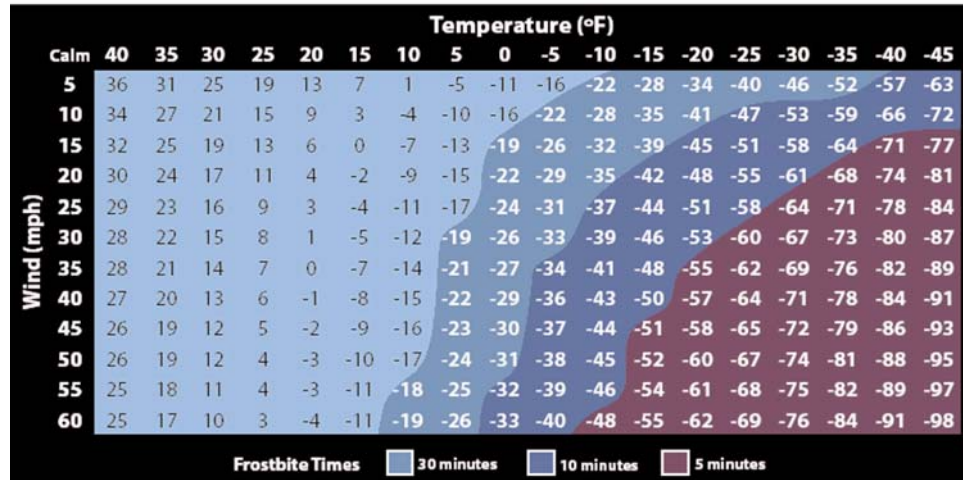
"I feel like I'm actually doing what

Cold Weather Injuries Can be a Pain

By Spc. Marie Whitney
122nd MPAD



Wind Chill Chart



Graphic courtesy U.S. Army Center For Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine

CAMP AL TAHREER, Baghdad -- There are different kinds of threats facing Soldiers in a combat zone. And not all of them involve combat. During the hot summer months in Iraq, heat injuries are something to look out for. But as the seasons change, so do the threats. And in this time of year, cold weather injuries have replaced the threat of those sustained in hot weather.

According to the U.S. Army Center For Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine (CHPPM), even though Iraq is not located in the extreme northern or southern hemisphere, cold weather injuries can still be a problem, especially in the cold northern mountainous regions, at nighttime with cold temperatures and in wet conditions.

"The weather here is similar to the weather we have back at Fort Hood," said Maj. Gary Aspera, division physician's assistant for the 1st Cavalry Division. "It gets chilly in the winter, but not real cold like it does in the northern United States."

This is why leaders and Soldiers alike need to keep alert to signs of cold weather injuries.

"Still Soldiers should still be conscious of the threat of cold weather injuries, especially with the wind blowing the way it does here," Aspera said.

Soldiers of all ages and ranks can suffer from cold injuries in the right situations. But some Soldiers are more susceptible to suffering from a cold weather injury than others.

Soldiers unaccustomed to colder climates and how to protect themselves from the cold are at a higher risk. Soldiers who have suffered a cold weather injury previously are also more susceptible. Use of alcohol, tobacco or medication can also

make it more difficult for the Soldier to easily recognize the signs of a cold weather injury.

Improper wear of the uniform, dehydration, overworking, injury, illness and lack of sleep can also contribute to cold weather injuries.

Some cold weather injuries leaders and Soldiers should be on the lookout for are: hypothermia (severe body heat loss), frostbite (the freezing of body tissues), chilblains (skin is inflamed, but not frozen), trench foot (cold injury caused by long exposure to wet, cold temperatures) and carbon monoxide poisoning (caused by inadequate ventilation from engines or heaters).

But according to the CHPPM, just like hot weather injuries, all cold weather injuries are preventable. They note that prevention involves the proper use of clothing and equipment by Soldiers and

continual interaction by leaders with their troops.

Aspera agrees.

"Soldiers should be sure to use the proper equipment like poly-pros, gortex jackets and gloves to protect themselves from the cold," he said. Soldiers should also pay special attention when doing physical training in cold weather, Aspera added.

"Don't be outside wearing wet clothing for very long, especially when it's windy outside," he said, noting the effect of wind chill on the body. (See chart.)

CHPPM also gives an acronym to use as a reminder of four key things to keep in mind for the prevention of cold weather injuries. The acronym is COLD:

- C -- wear clean clothes;
- O -- avoid overheating;
- L -- wear loose clothing in layers; and
- D -- keep it dry.

Useful Iraqi Words/Phrases

Keep the change.
iHtafiZ bil-baaqee.

Wednesday

High: 54
Low: 31



Thursday

High: 47
Low: 30



Friday

High: 45
Low: 27



Weather information provided by 1CD Staff Weather Office (SWO)

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News Notes

Justice Cannot Be Bought or Sold

NEW YORK (AP) -- A Manhattan housing court judge said he was not amused by an advertisement on eBay that listed him for sale - with worldwide shipping included - posted by a disgruntled litigant. The ad criticized Judge Jerald R. Klein for the way he dispensed justice and showed a photograph of him smiling, seated in the courtroom. It drew 6,421 bidders over four days. "I'd like to know their rules for this," said Klein, who first learned about the posting from a reporter who called him at home. However, after eBay was made aware of the listing, it took the posting down, citing a number of rules that it said the ad violated.

Spend Your Life on the Phone for \$999

WASHINGTON (Reuters) -- For customers who either love to plan ahead or hate monthly bills, a small Massachusetts telecommunications firm has launched a \$999 offer of unlimited Internet-based telephone service for life. RNK Telecom said on Monday its "Phone for Life" deal would be offered through resellers in Massachusetts, New York, New Hampshire and Rhode Island. The deal includes unlimited calls within the United States, Canada and 20 countries, as well as an additional 21 foreign cities. The \$999 fee does not include taxes or surcharges.



Topeka Capital-Journal

Topeka police officers and Shawnee County sheriff's deputies try to catch an emu as it dashes across traffic in Topeka, Kan., Saturday. The animal made it another block before being trapped. Authorities have not identified the emu's owner.

Salvage Team Reaches Alaska Freighter Wreck

(Seattle Times) -- An oil spill in the heart of an Alaska wildlife refuge may not be as big as initially feared, but the harsh weather that first cracked a freighter in half still threatens to unleash thousands more gallons of viscous oil.

Salvage crews yesterday scrambled to figure out what to do with the grounded ship during a lull between storms. A Coast Guard helicopter lowered three men onto the stern of the wave-washed ship to assess the damage and gauge the ship's stability.

When the 738-foot Selendang Ayu ran aground in Alaska's Aleutian Islands Wednesday, people worried it could immediately unleash up to 480,000 gallons of thick bunker oil contained in tanks aboard the ship. Heavy seas cleaved the ship in half, and both portions of the ship are aground near the entrance to Skan Bay.

Early estimates put the initial release at around 140,000 gallons, with warnings that further oil could spill if more fuel tanks ruptured. But the Coast Guard now says a 40,000-gallon tank ruptured and its contents were emptied. Another tank that holds up to 104,000 gallons is leaking.

The Coast Guard now lowered its total estimate of bunker oil on board to 424,000 gallons.

The estimates and the successful tour of the stern portion of the ship offered the first glimmer of good news since the ship with a crew of 26 lost power in heavy seas Tuesday.

"I hope they're right. What could be better than having less oil out there?" said Greg



Seattle Times

Improving weather yesterday in Alaska's Aleutian Islands chain allowed the Coast Guard to lower a three-man salvage team to the freighter that broke in two last week, spilling oil off Unalaska Island.

Siekaniec, manager of the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge. "I'm just very concerned about the status of that vessel yet."

Before yesterday the search for six crew members lost at sea and the spill response were largely stymied by winter storms. The six missing men, who were aboard a Coast Guard rescue helicopter that crashed Wednesday while evacuating the freighter, are presumed lost.

The stern of the ship appears stable for now, but the bow of the ship has pivoted on the rocks, said Coast Guard spokeswoman, Petty Officer Sara Francis.

One hope is that the ship can be stabilized enough to pump the remaining oil from it.

Kansas City Outlasts Tennessee

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) -- It wasn't quite as dramatic or significant as the Music City Miracle. The Kansas City Chiefs will take it just the same.

The Chiefs didn't need a long lateral on a controversial kickoff return like the Tennessee Titans once used on their way to the Super Bowl. Other than that, Monday night's 49-38 victory was as wild as anything Nashville has seen on a football field.

And it came from two of the NFL's most disappointing teams.

"It's tough to come in here anytime, let alone win a football game like we did tonight," said Chiefs coach Dick Vermeil, who scowled at his defense for much of the game.

Kansas City (5-8) was helped greatly by a phantom penalty, then got the winning points on a 9-yard touchdown catch by Eddie Kennison. Trent Green capped a 64-yard drive in just over a minute with his third touchdown pass.

Undermanned Tennessee (4-9) gained 542 yards and lost on a night that even featured a snow shower in the Music City.

The Titans had gone ahead 38-35 when rookie Randy Starks pounced on Tony Richardson's bobbled handoff at the Kansas City 17, and Gary Anderson kicked a 27-yard field goal with 1:39 remaining. Then the Chiefs, who got two long touchdown runs from Larry Johnson, surged back.

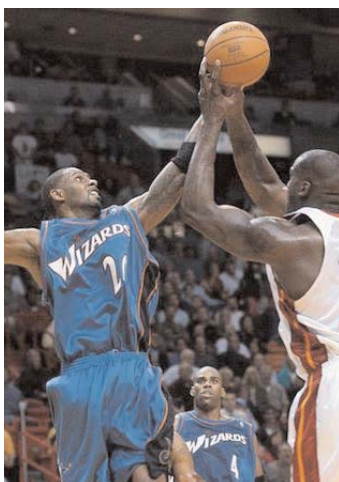
"I was excited, I was pumped," Johnson



AP

Kansas City Chiefs wide receiver Eddie Kennison (87) catches a touchdown pass to give the Chiefs a 41-38 lead over the Tennessee Titans with 37 seconds left in the fourth quarter Monday.

said. "As soon as I got my chance and my shot, I did everything I had to do and break tackles."



AP

Washington Wizards' Larry Hughes, left, fouls Miami Heat's Shaquille O'Neal, right, as Antwan Jamison (4) watches the play in the fourth quarter Monday. O'Neal scored 40 points as Miami won 106-83.

O'Neal, Heat Burn up Wizards

MIAMI (AP) -- Shaquille O'Neal kept his word to injured teammate Dwyane Wade on Monday night.

O'Neal scored a season-high 40 points after Wade left in the first half with a sprained left ankle, helping the Heat win their season-high fifth straight, a 106-83 victory over the Washington Wizards.

Wade badly wanted to keep playing, but O'Neal wouldn't let him.

"He was limping real bad," O'Neal said. "I told him, 'Flash, take the game off. I'll go out and do the work.'"

"He said, 'If I'm going to take it easy, you have to get 40 or 50.' I told him, 'I've got your back.'"

Wade, Miami's leading scorer, was hurt while stealing the ball with 4:19 left in the first half and exited a minute

later. His absence was more "precautionary than anything else," according to a Heat spokesperson.

Wade said he expects to play Wednesday night at Washington.

"I'm not worried about not scoring because I didn't play that long," said Wade, who went scoreless in 18 minutes. "I'm just happy for Shaq to come out and play a dominant game like he did. Just like he said he was going to do."

The Heat used a 26-11 run in the fourth quarter - with O'Neal scoring 12 during the spurt - to open a 102-80 cushion with 2:35 left.

"That's what we're going to have to do when (me or Wade) go out," O'Neal said. "The other one is going to have to step up."

In Brief

Jackson's Lawyer Wants a Delay

LOS ANGELES (AP) -- Michael Jackson's lawyers



have filed a motion to dismiss the child molestation charges against

the pop star on grounds of "vindictive prosecution and outrageous government conduct." They also want to push back the Jan. 31 trial date that Superior Court Judge Rodney Melville has pressed lawyers to meet for starting jury selection. The 46-year-old entertainer has pleaded not guilty to charges of child molestation, conspiracy and administering an intoxicating agent, alcohol, to his alleged victim.

Smelly Socks Sell for Fanatic Fans

WATERVILLE, Maine (AP)

-- Smelly socks worn by Ed Harris during the filming of "Empire Falls" were among the treasures snatched up by fans during a weekend sale of props and costumes from the HBO movie. "I've got Ed Harris' socks, and they smell, but I'm not washing them," said Bonnie Goodwin, pulling her loot out of a plastic bag. "One lady bought \$2,200 worth of items," said David Huard, who was staffing a special case of items, including ivory-colored costume earrings worn by Woodward. Among the bigger items were several large wooden signs, including one that says Empire Falls, and gravestones that look like granite but are made of wood.